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CIA recruiter meets prospects

By STEVE HOOK

The Central Intelligence Agency made its annual public recruiting appearance on campus yesterday in the person of Steve Gunn, the agency's regional personnel officer.

"I'm not really recruiting," he said.
"I'm like a preliminary screener — getting a feel of the people's backgrounds,

giving them information.

"I GIVE out some applications, but I don't hire people," he said.

Gunn said that he analyzes the "background and character" of prospective CIA members during the interviews. He gives applications to those who are "what we are looking for."

There have been no problems during his four months as a CIA interviewer, Gunn said. The past controversies concerning CIA campus recruitment have not touched him.

"It seems like I have overflowing schedules just about everywhere I go," he said. "Much like I had today."

GUNN SAID that the CIA is not looking for agents among college students. "We offer students a variety of fields, like engineering, accounting and mathematics." He said prospective agents "come to them;" that they rarely come out of an academic environment.

"Our agents usually have experien-

ces in other areas," he said. "They usually have diverse life experiences behind them — not necessarily academic."

Gunn described his job as "mostly public-relations." He said: "People come to me seeking information about the agency, and I give it to them."

When asked whether he detected apprehension among students over the activities of the CIA, Gunn replied that those who see him don't express reservations. "People don't come to me apprehensively," he said.

JOANNA STARK, a Residential College senior studying economics was one of the students who talked with Gunn.

"I wanted to find out what kind of people they were looking for," she said, "and what kind of approach they would use. I wanted to find out what kind of impression I would get of the CIA."

Stark described the interview as "formal, but comfortable." She said that the first question she was asked was "whether or not I went straight from high school to college."

She said Gunn also asked her about her major and her career goals. He also wanted to know how much time she had spent overseas and what foreign languages she knew. In addition, according to Stark, Gunn wanted to know why she was interested in the CIA.

Much of the interview involved Gunn describing general functions of the CIA, a talk "which came off as really military."

"A lot of what he said was kind of general and flimsy," she said, "and not very descriptive at all. I had no more of a conception of the CIA when I left than I had when I came. He clearly gave me the information he felt I should know, and disguised information I shouldn't know about."